Increase in working hours in Textile Sector

2688. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the measures such as increasing the minimum working hours in exclusive textiles zones to 60 hours a week from the present 48 hours and changing contract labour laws in regard to textiles sector are contemplated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether workers association have also been consulted in this regard;

(d) if so, their reaction thereto; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Construction of roads under PMGSY in Uttaranchal

2689. SHRIMATI PRAEMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana at many places surveys have been conducted but no progress has been made towards construction of the road;

(b) if so, the details of such places; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that road between Tahat and Bang Cheri, in Bageshwar in Uttaranchal is also waiting construction since long although survey of it has been taken place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) As reported by Government of Uttaranchal, construction of 129 road works out of 292

road works approved under Phases I to IV of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) have been completed. The work is in progress in respect of the remaining 113 road works.

(c) As per the Core Network data furnished by the State Government, Bang Cheri is under connected status and thus, is not eligible to be taken up under the PMGSY for New Connectivity.

Job Cards under NREG Act, 2005

2690. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many job cards have been issued so far in the identified districts by the Gram Panchayats, where National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, is being made applicable;

(b) what is the ratio of men and women of such Job Card Holders; and

(c) have the Gram Panchayats appointed and counsellors who have expertise in educating the prospective applicants to fill up the application forms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURAKANTA PATIL): (a) As per the reports received from Governments, 16122466 jobs cards have been issued by Gram Panchayats as on 26.4.2006.

(b) the NREG Act has been implemented with effect from 2.2.2006. Each rural household is issued a Job Card on demand. Separate figures for men and women workers who have been issued job cards are not being maintained because the job card is for the Rural household as a whole, not for individuals.

(c) There is no provision under the NCEG Act for appointment of Counsellors by the Gram Panchayats for educating applicants for filling up the application forms. The NREG guidelines, however, provide for appointment of an employment guarantee assistant call the "Gram Rozgar Sevak" who would be assisting in the process of registration, distribution of job cards, dated receipts against job application etc.